PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING,

OF THE

Cherokee Baptist Association.

HELD WITH PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH,

DeKalb County, Ala.

Commencing on Friday before the third Sabbath in August 1857.

NASHVILLE, TENN:
SOUTH WESTERN PUBLISHING HOUSE.
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ORDAINED MINISTERS AND POST OFFICES.

Wm Kimzie, Valley Head, Ala.
G W Eaton, " " "
W C Mynatt, Cedar Bluff, "
M Hendrix, Turkey Town, "
Jacob Coffman, Gaylesville, "
J A Reeves, Duck Springs, "
John B Appleton, Van Buren "
Wade Slaten, Guntersville, "
M R Lyon, Lyonville, "
A W Cunningham, Alpine, Ga.

LICENTIATES.

J S Bankson, Lebanon, Ala.
E T Willingham, Cedar Bluff, Ala.
A B Smith, Duck Springs, "
C W Lay, " " "
N D Renfroe, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
S E Brooks, " "
Robt Comer, Lyonville, Ala.
H Brock, Van Buren, "
Jas B Hall, " "

MINUTES.

Friday Morning, Aug. 14, 1857.

The Delegates composing the Cherokee Association convened today with the Church at Pleasant Grove, DeKalb County, Ala.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. W. C. Mynatt.

Friday Evening, 2 o'clock.

The Association convened—Eld. W. C. Mynatt in the Chair; A. Hawkins acting as clerk, pro tem.

1. Letters from the Churches were then called for and read.

2. Called for the petitionary letters, when the newly constituted church, New Canaan, presented her letter by delegates; upon the reading of which, together with the articles of faith, she was received into the fellowship of this body.

3. Letters having been read, and names of delegates enrolled, proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Eld. W. C. Mynatt, Mod., and J. B. Walden, Clerk.

4. Proceeded to appoint the following committees:

Devotional Exercises.—T. N. Appleton, H. O. Golightly, Jas. B. Hall, and J. B. Hefner.

On Finance.—A. Hawkins, T. N. Appleton, and J. S. McGehee.

5. On motion, visiting brethren were invited to seats with us. Accepted by brothers J. F. Mays, from Tennessee River, and H. Cornelius, from Muscle Shoals Associations, who presented minutes from the same.

Adjourned till to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

Saturday, 10 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. J. B. Appleton.

6. On motion, visiting brethren were invited to seats with us. Accepted by Eld. F. M. Law, Corresponding Secretary of the Ala. Bap. Colporteur Society, and Eld. Jesse A. Collins, Corresponding Delegate of the East Alabama State Convention, and Eld. J. M. Pendleton, President of Union University, Tennessee.

Adjourned till 2 o'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer.

7. Appointed Eld. J. B. Appleton, Jas. B. Hall, T. N. Appleton, and H. Brock, messengers to Tenn. River Association; Eld. J. B. Appleton to write.

8. Appointed Eld. W. C. Mynatt, Eld. A. W. Cunningham, Eld. G. W. Eaton, messengers to Tallasseehatchee Association; Eld. A. W. Cunningham to write.

9. Appointed Eld. J. A. Reeve, Eld. W. C. Mynatt, A. B. Smith, and N. M. Thornton, messengers to Ten Island Association; A. Hawkins to write.

10. Appointed Eld. W. C. Mynatt messenger to Coosa River Association; H. O. Golightly to write.

11. Appointed A. B. Smith messenger to Muscle Shoals Association; A. Hawkins to write.

12. Appointed Eld. W. C. Mynatt and J. B. Walden, messengers to the Baptist State Convention; J. B. Walden to write.

13. On motion, voted that this body become a constituent member of the East Alabama State Convention; whereupon, Eld. J. B. Appleton, Eld. W. C. Mynatt, N. M. Thornton, Eld. G. W. Eaton, Eld. J. A. Reeve, J. B. Hall, J. B. Walden, Eld. A. W. Cunningham, M. H. Turner, A. B. Smith, and H. O. Golightly, were appointed messengers to said Convention.

14. Reports on Domestic and Indian Mission read and adopted. See exhibit. A.

15. Report on Foreign Mission read and adopted. See exhibit. B.

16. Report on Bible Cause read and adopted. See exhibit C.

17. Report on Temperance read and adopted. See exhibit. D.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock, Monday morning.

On Sabbath, the pulpit exercises were conducted by Eld. F. M. Law, at the hour of 9, and by Eld. J. M. Pendleton at the hour of 11 o'clock. In the afternoon, Eld. F. M. Law and Eld. Jesse A. Collins, addressed the people in behalf of Bible Colportage and the Indian Mission cause.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

18. On motion, voted to dispense with reports on state of Religion, Missions, Temperance and Bible Cause.

19. On motion, voted to change the time of holding the sessions of this body to Friday before the 4th Sabbath in October in each year.

20. On motion, voted that this body hold its next session with Mill Creek Church, Cherokee county, Ala., commencing on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in October, 1858.

21. On motion, voted to continue N. D. C. Renfroe, a beneficiary of Union University, Tennessee.

22. On motion, voted that 600 copies of the minutes of this session be printed, and that the Clerk request the cost of printing to be placed on the minutes.

23. On motion, voted that the associational fund be placed to the minute fund, and that the clerk, after paying cost of minutes, shall retain the balance thereof for his services.

24. Memorial, purporting to be from Union, presented without signatures of Moderator and Clerk, touching certain difficulties, which not being specified or clearly pointed out, this body could not consistently take any action thereon.

25. The following resolutions were severally read and adopted:

Resolved. That we hereby approve the work of Bible and Book

Colportage, as undertaken by our Associational Bible and Colporteur Society, and that we will co operate with said Society in prosecuting this work. And further, that the delegates here assembled be earnestly requested to present the claims of this enterprise to their respective churches immediately on their return home, and try to raise the amount necessary to put this work into successful operation, and that they make reports, as soon as possible, to the Executive Board.

Resolved, That we recommend to the favorable consideration of our churches, Foreign, Domestic and Indian Missions, and that they are requested to send up such amounts for these objects as they may feel able to appropriate in that way, by their delegates to the Association.

Resolved, That we recommend to the heads of families in our churches the serious consideration of the duty of holding family prayer, and that they try not to neglect so important a means of grace.

26. On motion, appointed brothers A. Hawkins and J. A. Espy, agents to distribute minutes in the 1st district, and brothers J. B. Walden and Eld. J. A. Reeve in the 2d district.

27. Appointed Eld. J. B. Appleton to preach the introductory sermon before the next session of this body; Eld W. C. Mynatt, alternate.

28. Letters to corresponding Associations read and approved.

29. Letter to Baptist State Convention read and approved.

30. Proposed to amend the 11th article of the Constitution of this body, that is to say, insert the words "by her council," after the words "any consistent manner," and strike out the residue of said article.

Said article, as it now stands, reads thus: "The Association shall recognize the entire independence of the churches as to any other head than Christ. The Association shall not assume any power over them in relation to their internal concerns, but shall aid them in any consistent manner. The Association will, therefore, receive and act upon any queries that may be sent up by the churches, and attend to any matter of difficulty among them, which they cannot satisfactorily settle among themselves."

31. Report on Finance read and adopted. See exhibit E.

32. On motion, adjourned to meet at the time and place set forth.

W. C. MYNATT, *Moderator*.

EXHIBIT A.

We, your Committee on Domestic and Indian Mission, offer the following as our report:

From the best information in our possession, the mission among us is not receiving that attention at our hands it so richly deserves. While the gospel is now successfully preached in localities a few years ago destitute, and prosperous churches are planted, through the energetic efforts of our Missionaries, many portions of our land, and even in our own State, are yet destitute of the preached gospel. The prominent places of destitution should be sought out and supplied as soon as possible

The Indian Mission, at the present time, is in a prosperous condition, and

is daily confuting the long entertained opinion, that "the Aborigines of this country are incapable of improvement." A few years experience has taught us that they are not only susceptible of civilization, but they also imbibe the principles of christianity as readily as any other people among whom we are endeavoring to sow the seeds of eternal life. Among the various tribes, churches are springing up, composed of their most influential men, and almost every day our ears hear of the wonderful works of God among them. We, as an Association, should feel a deep interest in this particular mission; we are now occupying the ground over which the Indian roamed "monarch of all he surveyed." Here in our midst repose the ashes of their fathers, and many other things dear to their heart are continually coming before our eyes. In conclusion we would urge upon the body the propriety of adopting some more efficient means of raising funds for the dissemination of the truth, among all tongues and kindred of the earth.

J. B. APPLETON, Chairman.

EXHIBIT B.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to say, that the limits of a report to be spread on the minutes will not allow a full investigation of a subject of so much interest to the christian. We desire, however, to present a few facts in order to stir up, if possible, to a more faithful discharge of the obligations resting upon us. Examine the report of the Board of Foreign Missions, and you will find they have under their charge 5 missions, 24 stations, 57 missionaries and assistants, 22 schools, with about 500 students, a number of sunday schools, largely attended—baptized within the last conventional year 200 or more. During the year, only 2 of our missionaries have died, notwithstanding the many difficulties, dangers, privations and hardships through which they have had to pass. The several stations, it is believed, have never been in a more favorable state than at this time. God, it seems by his providence, is opening up the way hitherto, apparently, barred by obstacles. Are not these things encouraging, and ought they not to prompt us to greater sacrifices of time, labor and means, in order to hasten the day when the kingdoms of the world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord Jesus Christ. The toil and sacrifice in the cause of missions have been fully compensated. None should despair, because thousands are not converted in a day. Remember the period for the miraculous interpositions of the Holy Ghost has passed. The christian must seek spiritual comfort from the revealed word of God. Let us not forget our obligations to send this word abroad. The commission given by the great head of the church was not addressed to the eleven exclusively, but to them as depositories of the divine commands, through them to the whole body of ministers in all time to come. He has promised to be with them always, even unto the end of the world. The command now tingles in the ears of ministers and churches. If it was possible for fallen man to be saved without the gospel, we might rest content This cannot be. St. Peter expressly teaches that there is none other name given but Jesus, under heaven, among men, whereby we must be saved. St. John declares, by the inspired word, "he that believeth not the son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." In St. Mark, it is said he that believeth not shall be damned. How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher? How shall they preach except they be sent? The world must be converted, the glorious reign of Christ will come. Shall we withhold our prayers, our labor and means, in opposition to these ends. We trust not. If we cannot give much, let us give little, remembering the widow's mite. Solomon hath said, there is that scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty The liberal soul is made fat, and he that watereth shall be watered also himself. We are commanded, in Malachi, to "bring in all the tithes into the store house that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." The scriptures abound in promises to those who do the will of God, and in curses to those who do it not.

Your Committee recommend the "Commission," published monthly at Richmond, Va., by the Board of Foreign Missions, to each member of your churches. We submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That each minister and delegate be requested to make an effort to raise something for the support of foreign missions during the next Associational year.

M. H. TURNER, Chairman.

EXHIBIT C.

We, your Committee to whom was referred the Bible Cause, report that after a cool and prayerful deliberation, we feel to regret that this cause has had so little prompt attention. The design of this enterprise is to evangelize our own Association, and to supply every family in its bounds with a copy of the Bible, and to circulate a pure and religious literature. It would be a superfluous work to enter into detailed argument concerning the importance of circulating the word of God. For arguments on this subject, we refer you to the many articles of Eld. F. M. Law, published, from time to time, in the S. W. Baptist, and to the reports of our committees, through our minutes, from 1854 to 1856, when our body organized a society; also, to Eld. Dayton's plea for the Bible Board. Now, brethren, we have had this subject under consideration long enough to start the work Shall we not raise the necessary funds soon, and support some one of our worthy young brethren to aid in doing this our Master's work.

We recommend this body to appoint some brethren to visit our churches and solicit from them aid on its behalf, and that an earnest effort be made soon.

C. W. LAY, Chairman.

EXHIBIT D.

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report that, from our own observations and the best information we can get, there is not much, if any, abatement in the consumption of intoxicating liquors. Intemperance is still doing its dreadful work in town and country. We are at a loss what to recommend as an antidote for this evil. In our humble opinion, the only thing that can check this destructive vice, is a pure, religious sentiment, pervading the public mind. To this end we suggest the circulation of good books, and first of all and before all, the Bible; so that no class may be without instruction thus afforded. We further recommend that the ministers of this Association lecture on Temperance in their respective churches, at least once a year, and at other places, as opportunity may offer.

Respectfully submitted. A. W. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

EXHIBIT E.

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following report:

For Minutes,		$29 40
Domestic Missions,		19.85
Indian "		5.50
Associational purposes,		1.70
Public Collection—Bible and Colporteur causes,		6 15
Indian Mission,		6.20
Paid to Eld. Jesse A. Collin by Eld. W. C. Mynatt,	$6 20	$68 80
This amount in the hands of Eld. W. C. Mynatt,	6.15	12 35
		$56.45

Respectfully submitted. A. HAWKINS, Chairman.

STATEMENT OF THE CHURCHES FOR THE YEAR 1857.

Churches.	Counties.	Post Office.	Names of Delegates.	By whom Supplied.	Sabbath of Meeting.	Baptized	Received.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Dead.	Whites	Blacks.	Totals.	For Min't's	Assn. purp.	Dom. & For
Cedar Bluff,..	Cherokee,...	Cedar Bluff,..	W C Mynatt, F M Hardwick and A Hawkins.	W C Mynatt.	2nd	5	7	3	12	4	3	128	23	150	$5.00		
Unity,.....	"	"	H Turner, C Puckett and S O Bankson.	W C Mynatt.	1st	0	0	1	6	0	0	59	4	63	3 00		
Yellow Creek,	"	Leesburg,.....	Josiah Kitchens, J A Espy and W D Bearden.	Hood.	2	0	5	0	10	1	1	57	7	64	1.50		
Mill Creek,...	"	Gailesville,...	H O Golightly and S Miller.	W C Mynatt.	3	1	9	0	6	2	0	62	0	62	2 10		
Lebanon,....	"	Turkey Town	J F Thompson and J J Purcell.	S H Hodges.	2	0	0	0	16	1	0	30	0	30	1.50		
Mt. Bethel,...	"	Cobb's Mills..	J McGee, G W Eaton and J M Hefner.	G W Eaton.	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	21	0	21	1 25		
Providence,..	———	——.....	No representation.														
Gadsden,.....	Cherokee,...	Gadsden,.....	N M Thornton.	S R Hood.	4	0	11	0	3	1	0	16	8	24	1.50		1385
Holly Springs	"	Alpine, Ga,..	A W Cunningham, J Day and W Kimzie.	W Kimzie.	2	0	0	0	2	3	0	30	0	30	1.00		
Hopewell,....	Marshall.....	Duck Spring,	No representation.														
Union,.....	DeKalb,.....	" "	A B Smith, J A Reeve and C P Johnson.	J A Reeve.	4	2	8	0	14	3	3	88	10	98	3 40		
Macedonia,...	"	Hendrixville.	J B Hefner, G L Hefner, A Hall	J B Appleton	2	4	4	0	8	0	1	29	2	31	1.00	50	
Pleasant Grove	"	Van Buren,..	J B Hall and T N & J B Appleton.	J B Appleton.	3	0	5	0	0	0	1	72	10	82	2.55		1.00
Fairville,.....	"	Duck Spring,	J Bernett and W B Gilliland.	J A Reeve.	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	38	0	38	1.50		
Antioch,.....	"	Rawlingsville	No representation.														
Mt Harmony,.	"	Lebanon,.....	J B Walden, E T Goggin, G W Crow.	J B Appleton.	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	33	3	36	1 50	70	5 00
Mt. Pleasant,.	Marshall....	Guntersville..	W Slater, R C N Reeve.	W Slater.	3	13	4	1	9	3	1	37	1	38	1 00		
Mt. Olivet, ...	Jackson.....	Lyonville....	No representation.						2			4		6	50		
New Canaan,.	Marshall....	Nichols Mills,	G W Cox and W B Strange.	G W Master.		2	7	0	2					22	1.00